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Lieutenant Governor's Hoosier Hospitality Awards Recognize Service Excellence in Tourism

INDIANAPOLIS – Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman recognized outstanding individual contributions to the tourism industry during a special ceremony Monday in the Statehouse Rotunda. Eleven people received a 2008 Hoosier Hospitality Award for going above and beyond their normal duties at a hotel, attraction or other tourism-related job to provide excellent customer service.

"These award winners are just a few of the many people who make positive contributions to Indiana's tourism industry," said Lt. Gov. Becky Skillman. "It's important to thank them for their hard word in making guests feel welcome during their stay in Indiana."

The 2008 Lt. Governor's Hoosier Hospitality Award recipients are:

Doug Bessler

The Sherman House Restaurant Batesville

Regina "Cookie" Block

Lanier Mansion State Historic Site

Madison

Cory Davidson Holiday Inn

Richmond

Arthur Hall

Museum of the Soldier

Portland

Norris McPike

French Lick Springs Villas

French Lick

Sherry Matlock

Kokomo Visitors Bureau

Kokomo

Allison "Allie" Milam

Cicero Coffee Company

Cicero

Rich & Laura Ostergren

Serenity Springs

LaPorte

Cindy & John Scheele

Cindy's Diner Fort Wayne

Lauren Wahl

Holiday World & Splashin' Safari

Santa Claus

Lew White

Lew White Tours Indianapolis

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The Hoosier Hospitality Awards ceremony is part of National Tourism Week, which runs May 10-19. Information on Indiana travel discounts and trip ideas is available at VisitIndiana.com.

More than 62 million people visit Indiana each year, generating \$9.8 billion in visitor spending.

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Lt. Governor Becky Skillman oversees the Indiana Office of Tourism Development. Amy Vaughan serves as the agency's Director.